

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An error correction method for use with a noisy communication channel, said method comprising the steps of:
 - dividing a data stream into symbols;
 - sampling the divided data stream in threads, wherein samples are taken at fixed
 - 5 time intervals;
 - inserting a correction symbol into the data stream to mix the correction symbol with data symbols that have a fixed time separation;
 - transmitting the data stream;
 - receiving the transmitted data stream;
 - 10 performing error detection and correction computations on the data and error correction symbols; and
 - outputting an error corrected data stream.
2. The method of Claim 1 wherein the bursty communication channel comprises a satellite communication link.
3. The method of Claim 1 wherein the bursty communication channel comprises a scratched compact disk.
4. The method of Claim 1 wherein the incoming data stream comprises symbols in the form of bits.
5. The method of Claim 1 wherein the incoming data stream comprises symbols in the form of bytes.
6. The method of Claim 1 wherein the incoming data stream comprises symbols in the form of words.
7. The method of Claim 1 wherein samples are taken at fixed time intervals that are longer than the time interval of the bursts of data.
8. The method of Claim 1 wherein the step of performing error detection and correction comprises performing cyclic redundancy check error correction.

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